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EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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TODAY . . .

EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW - - - - Published by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for the proper transaction of the public business. The REVIEW is issued free by law to workers engaged in extension activities. Others obtain copies from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 5 cents each, or by subscription at 50 cents a year, domestic, and 90 cents, foreign. Postage stamps not acceptable in payment.

EXTENSION SERVICE

C. W. WARBURTON, *Director*

REUBEN BRIGHAM, *Assistant Director* C. B. SMITH, *Assistant Director*

TOMORROW . . .

Seven Cardinal Points on which farmers can unite to do battle for the general welfare will be explained and illustrated for extension workers by Secretary Henry A. Wallace in an early number of the REVIEW.

Manuscripts finding their way to the office of the REVIEW sometimes have a way of running to one subject. Right now it is easy to see that the older young people (or by whatever other name you call them) are looming large among extension problems. Among the articles looking for a place next month are: A discussion of objectives, by Cleo Fitzsimmons of Illinois; an account of the county youth institutes in Iowa; a coast-to-coast study of what young people want in extension work; the viewpoint of a member of a young people's club in Pennsylvania; as well as two contributions on the value of the leadership project with this extension group in New Mexico and Minnesota.

Coordination continues ace high with the contributors. An article from Wisconsin tells how a successful series of meetings combined an explanation of the A. A. A. program and the agricultural outlook information. In a Delaware county the Public Health Service and the Extension Service got together and made some real improvement in county health conditions.

Radio, a comparatively new tool for extension workers, is doing good work in many places. T. W. Gildersleeve, extension editor, will tell how electrical recording has revitalized the radio program in North Dakota.

On the Calendar

Second Annual International Horticultural Exposition, Chicago, Ill., Sept. 18–26.

Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., Sept. 19–24.

Twenty-eighth Annual Dairy Cattle Congress and Allied Shows, Waterloo, Iowa, Sept. 27–Oct. 3.

Pacific International Livestock Exposition, Portland, Oreg., Oct. 2–9.

Ak-Sar-Ben Stock Show, Omaha, Nebr., Oct. 9–16.

National Dairy Show, Columbus, Ohio, Oct. 9–16.

National Home Demonstration Council, Manhattan, Kans., Oct. 13.

The American Country Life Association Meeting, Manhattan, Kans., Oct. 14–16.

American Royal Livestock Show, Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 16–23.

National Congress for Vocational Agriculture Students and Future Farmers of America Convention, Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 18–21.

Extension Service Review

Published monthly by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the interest of cooperative extension work.....L. A. Schlup.. Editor

PROGRESS OR DECLINE?

HENRY A. WALLACE
Secretary of Agriculture

SEVENTY-FIVE years ago the Congress of the United States started the Department of Agriculture and the land-grant colleges on their way. This fall these great State institutions will join the Department to celebrate their Seventy-fifth birthday. At that time there will be much talk about changes which have taken place in agriculture during the past 75 years and the things which are in store during the next 25 years. When the agricultural centennial is held in 1962 I am wondering if our children will be able to say that we made as much progress during the quarter century from 1937 to 1962 as during the preceding 75 years.

SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

When our grandfathers were young men at the close of the Civil War, more than half of the workers were in agriculture. The great railroads were just beginning to expand over the West. Commercial agriculture had not yet become specialized and localized. The farmers in New England and New York State were just beginning to feel the intense competition of the western farmers. The Red River Valley of the North and the plains of Kansas had not yet been exploited, but it would be only a short time until their wheat would flood the markets of the United States and the world.

On the whole, agriculture was still a local industry, and a high percentage of the farmers sold very little and bought very little. Perhaps this is why the farmers of those days were so inefficient. They bought so little fertilizer and machinery and depended so exclusively on a strong back and a long day that the average farmer produced only 35 to 40 percent as much as the average farmer of today.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS FROM NOW

I am wondering what the next 25 years have in store. Will drought, insect pests, diseases, soil erosion, and unemployed people forced back on the land cause the American farmer to become less efficient? Is it possible that the American people will lose their interest in science and improved methods of production? Will they let the boll weevil, the European corn borer, the Japanese beetle, and many other pests cause 10 times as much damage 25 years hence as they do today? Insect pests and diseases can cause the most terrible trouble to agriculture if the problem is looked upon as a local one. Soil erosion may destroy another 50 or 100 million acres of land unless there is a concerted attack on a national scale to get a much higher percentage of the more rolling lands into grass and trees.

In certain parts of the United States poisonous elements will appear in the soil, and in other parts there will be noticed marked deficiencies in certain necessary chemical elements. Yes, it would be easy for an alarmist to paint a doleful picture of the way the land and the agriculture of the United States could look in the year 1962.

SCIENCE MAY TRIUMPH

Instead of all these doleful things happening, it is equally possible that science may triumph in an altogether unusual way. If we have ordinary weather, I should expect corn yields in the heart of the Corn Belt 25 years from now to average 10 bushels an acre higher than they have during the past 15 years. Even though a series of wet seasons causes the European corn borer to do a great deal of damage, I anticipate that the new types of corn which will be widely available 10 or 15 years hence will outyield the present types on good land by at least 10 bushels an acre. Besides this, sensible rotation of crops and the

(*Continued on page 143*)

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This Matter of Coordination

It Works In Colorado Where 15 Organizations Consolidated Their Efforts

F. A. ANDERSON

Director

Colorado Extension Service

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WE of the Extension Service in Colorado have long realized the disadvantage in not having frequent contacts with other agencies that deal with agricultural problems and programs in the State. Early in 1936 it was suggested to administrative officials of other organizations that we all get together once a month for mutual benefit. The idea met with very favorable reactions, and a meeting was called for the month of April. At this meeting, held April 9 in Denver, it was decided to organize into the Colorado State agricultural clearing committee. The extension director was named chairman of the committee, which has been meeting the first Tuesday in each month since that time.

Clearing Committee Organized

The first meetings were devoted to the reporting of the activities of each organization represented. Through this review of the work being done in the State by all agencies, a much better understanding of each agency's functions and responsibilities was effected. Cooperative plans of action were developed in some cases where it was found that more than one agency was doing identical work. In this manner each agency took the responsibility for definite parts of the work to be done, and duplication of effort was eliminated. At the same time all agencies involved or interested in the project benefited from the work done by other agencies.

After all the agencies had made their reports, the latter were published by the clearing committee under the heading, "Statements of functions", which recorded the functions, the activity, and the responsibility of each of the agencies represented in the committee. This volume has proved itself a very valuable document, and reference is often made to the information it contains.

In the fall of 1936, the clearing committee meetings were devoted to the development of agricultural programs for the State. A few representative farmers were called in to discuss actual farm problems and to assist in the formulation of a coordinated program for agriculture. Once the problems were presented and discussed, the meetings were devoted to the development of the program. In order that the general field of agriculture might be divided into a few specific subjects under which specific problems could be discussed, a number of special committees were appointed by the chairman with membership from the agencies represented in the clearing committee and from other agencies and individuals in the State. The special committees included the following: Legislation, reforestation and forestry, land use, erosion control, range management, wildlife, rodent and insect control, poisonous and noxious weed control, and water storage and conservation.

Several months were taken in the preparation and discussion of the recommendations made by these special committees for programs to meet definite needs in the State. When the reports were finally approved by the clearing committee they were published as Reports and Recommendations Affecting Colorado's Agriculture and distributed to all clearing committee members, special committee members, and to a number of other State officials. The reports were comprehensive and represented the best information available on the particular subjects covered.

At the present time, the clearing committee is putting its efforts toward developing and initiating plans of action based upon the recommendations made. This action program includes participation of all agencies involved in each particular problem and aims at the development and actual functioning of a coordinated agricultural program for the State The committee includes representatives of 15 organizations: the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Bureau of Biological Survey, Bureau of Plant Industry, Soil Conservation Service, and Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture; region 10 and region 12 of the Resettlement Administration, with headquarters at Amarillo, Tex., and Denver, Colo., respectively; the Grazing Service of the Department of Interior; the National Emergency Council; the National Resources Committee; and the State planning commission, Department of Agriculture, experiment station, Extension Service, Board of Land Commissioners, and State hail insurance commission of the State of Colorado.

The keynote of the agricultural clearing committee in Colorado is united action. Problems are discussed thoroughly before action toward their solution is taken. Once approved, the program to be followed has the united backing of the entire committee. All State and Federal agencies in Colorado that deal with agricultural problems have as their aim the betterment of agriculture in the State.

Puerto Rico's New Director

Dr. Antonio Rodriguez Geigel, the new director of extension work in Puerto Rico, is a native of the island, and was educated in the States. He received his bachelor and master degrees from the Pennsylvania State College and his Ph. D. from Cornell University. Before his recent appointment, Director Rodriguez served as assistant under Director Bowman, becoming familiar with the extension organization and methods on the island. Before joining the Extension Service he gained experience, which will be most helpful to him now, in the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Former Director Bowman, on leave of absence from Wyoming, has returned to take up his duties as director there. L. O. Colebank, on leave of absence as assistant 4–H club leader in Tennessee, who went to Puerto Rico to organize boys' club work there, will take Dr. Rodriguez' place as assistant director.

C. B. SMITH
Assistant Director
Extension Service

Extension as a Profession

Keeping the Standards High

As the Extension Service grows with increased funds and personnel, the question of professional standards is a direct challenge to every agent. This discussion of the problem is the third and last of a series of three articles by Dr. Smith discussing extension as a profession. In May, he wrote of the job and what it requires; in July, the salary and prestige which the Extension Service can offer to its workers, and now professional standards, what they are, and how to maintain them.

THERE needs to be a general awakening to arouse extension workers to a realization of the individual's responsibility to the profession of which he or she is a part. The administrative and supervisory officers and the older, more experienced agents have a real responsibility to see that recent recruits understand the true purpose of extension teaching, develop a respect for precise use of terminology, appreciate the importance of complete and accurate records and reports, familiarize themselves with professional literature, keep informed regarding studies of extension procedure, maintain a scientific approach to their work, and gradually acquire a sense of loyalty to coworkers and obligation to the profession in which they are engaged.

Extension house organs, State and national associations of extension workers, including the national honorary extension fraternity, Epsilon Sigma Phi, are all contributing to the development of a professional consciousness.

To Help Others Grow

Extension agents are directly responsible for the training, help, and guidance of about 400,000 local leaders of various kinds, and therein comes the true test of whether or not we are great teachers. Our job is to help make each one in that group of 400,000 local leaders strong and important in the community in which each one lives. We are to give them our best thoughts and let them present those thoughts to the people as their own. Credit for accomplishment must be placed upon them. They must increase in importance in the work of the community, rather than ourselves. Your delight as extension agents is in seeing them grow in ability and power. Your compensation lies in their appreciation of you and your own knowledge that you are accomplishing the greatest thing any man or woman can accomplish in life, and that is to help others grow.

Extension agents are contributing something to the field of education that is having a quickening effect on all teaching. Our teaching has the merit of being based on problems of greatest significance on the farm, in the home, the market place and community, and the taking of such immediate action as is required to meet effectively the needs of the situation. So much of the average teacher's time is taken and required to give the individual just the tools of learning, such as reading, mathematics, knowledge of language, science, the background of history, and philosophy. Ours is the practical application of all of these to the immediate problems of life, which is the ultimate aim of all the preparatory teaching of our schools and colleges.

Knowledge of Methods Advances

And may I add just here another thought: Our knowledge of teaching through extension has advanced a long way since we began our large expansion in cooperative extension in 1914. We may say today, perhaps, of extension, as was said at that time of research—that knowledge of agriculture, brought about by research, was 25 years ahead of the practice of agriculture. So may we say today, thanks to our researches and experiences in extension methods, that the method of our best extension agents is 6 to 10 years ahead of the practices of our average agents.

So much is going on these days and is being tried out in all parts of the country that the agents who want to keep abreast of the profession must needs return to the college from time to time to refresh themselves and bring themselves up again to the ever-increasing knowledge of their profession. That is why we are so strongly in favor of sabbatic leave and have been willing to interpret broadly the law whereby cooperative extension funds, in modest degree, may be used for sabbatic leave and for research in extension.

A Place of Significance

For the man or woman who likes rural people and rural life, the man or woman who gets satisfaction out of helping people to grow and live a larger and fuller life, the man or woman who likes work and action and likes to see accomplishments here and now, the man or woman who wants to make himself or herself live in the memory and hearts of others, we know of no greater opportunity than through the profession of extension teaching. It is as significant as the Christian religion—in fact, knowing the opportunity and responsibility that rests upon those in extension work, no man or woman can long be an extension agent, engaged in the development of men and women, without becoming deeply religious. Extension expects technical knowledge of each of its members, but away beyond that it is expected that they shall be real men and real women. Extension forces are a small group, but the world is governed by minorities who have knowledge.

I have full faith that, if we continue to deal with the vital matters of life in our work, as we have been doing in the past; if we continue to serve men and women and youth so that they will grow, we shall increase in numbers, in influence, and in power with every passing year. We are a chosen group, sifted out by rural birth and training; again sifted by college training, apprenticeship, and selection; and again sifted in the trying field of experience. Those who serve and are with us now are the ones who have been refined by fire. We know that we have a place of significance in the world, a man's work to do.

Study Profits in Management

O. G. JOHANNINGSMEIER

Extension Economist in Farm Management, Indiana

ONE-DAY farm-management schools have been found very helpful by extension workers in Indiana. Their success is owing to careful planning for the meeting and organization of the information, as well as to the growing desire among farmers for more help on management principles which will bring in higher incomes.

To give those attending the school a grasp of just what good farm management means, a study is made of how some of the best paying farms are organized and managed.

Two of the most profitable farms in the same type of farming area (but outside the county in which the school is held) are selected from the basic farm account project for this demonstration and discussion. The farms chosen for this purpose are usually ones on which accounts have been kept and summarized 5 or more years and on which the earnings have been considerably above the average of those summarized during that time.

In demonstrating how the organization and management can be and is being changed on some of the least profitable farms to increase their relative income, two farms are selected for demonstration and discussion from the basic account project in the same type of farming area but from outside the county in which the school is being held.

Important economic trends that affect farming are discussed in the outlook for the coming year. This discussion brings up the subject of important adjustments necessary on individual farm businesses to make the best income possible under prospective conditions.

The schools are started at 10 o'clock in the morning and dismissed promptly at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, with 1 hour intermission at noon. A leading farmer usually acts as chairman. Two farm management specialists alternate in conducting the four 1-hour demonstration or discussion meetings. Although the schools are officially dismissed at 3 o'clock, an opportunity is usually given to continue group or individual discussion on farm-management problems. It has not been uncommon to have a group stay an hour after the school is dismissed.

Conducting Schools

In many counties, especially where the basic farm account project has been in progress for several years, one or two farmers who have demonstrated outstanding ability in organizing and managing their farms are given 10 or 15 minutes to discuss the procedure responsible for their accomplishments. This method has added considerably to the value of several schools.

A contest feature which is valuable in teaching men to judge farm businesses and which takes up very little school time has been used in numerous schools. The following information on a certain farm business is displayed on a chart somewhere in the room: Acres in the farm, acres tillable, acres and yields of various crops, kind and amount of labor and power used, kind and amount of breeding stock kept and kind of products sold, and kind and amount of feed and livestock bought. With this information available they are asked to estimate the net cash income of the farm business for the year just closed. Cards on which to write their names and estimates are distributed early in the day. These cards are usually collected at the close of the first afternoon session. The five winning estimates are announced just before the school is dismissed. Where this contest has been used there is usually a great deal of discussion during the noon hour on possible incomes from the various enterprises. Some farmers, especially those who have been in the basic account project and have studied their own business so closely, often come remarkably close to the right answer.

Observations on field work, as well as conferences with farmers who have attended these schools in past years, indicate some of the important factors brought out in the schools which impressed farmers most. They were interested in selecting that combination of crops adapted to the soil which will bring the greatest net returns and at the same time conserve fertility; in choosing a combination of livestock which can make the best use of feed and labor available; in planning farm operations to make the most efficient use of feed, labor, power, and equipment; and in considering probable effects of economic changes when planning the farm business for the following year.

The first four farm-management schools were held in the winter of 1931–32. These were to determine whether such schools should be made a part of the regular extension program. The following year the schools were available to counties generally. Since that time 140 schools have been requested by county agents and held in 57 Indiana counties. Two were held in November, 52 in December, 24 in January, 60 in February, and 2 in March. January attendance was largest with an average of 63 per session, whereas the November attendance was smallest with an average of 49 per session. The number of schools that can be held in January is limited because the time is needed to check in farm records in the basic account project.

Calendar of Schools

Schedules for farm-management and other extension schools are usually completed in October by county agent leaders. Soon thereafter a suggested calendar of events is prepared by farm-management extension men for county agents.

At the meeting, the duties of the county agent are to see that committeemen carry out duties assigned to them; give them helpful suggestions; have supply of Indiana farm account books; take names and addresses of farmers who buy copies; take notes on the meeting; and prepare a complete publicity and attendance summary of the school, including criticisms and suggestions for improvement.

Iowa County Builds

4–H Organization Where . . .

Boys' Clubs Do Things

WHEN the subject of active, well-organized boys' 4–H clubs that are doing things is mentioned in Iowa, sooner or later somebody brings up Clay County.

Among the events and activities that make Clay County well known for boys' club work are the Clay County Fair, the Junior Western Lamb Feeders' show, and the largest 4–H club enrollment in the State, not to mention numerous individual and team awards won by Clay County boys.

But back of these results are several years of careful organization and development of active 4–H clubs and a corps of active local leaders.

Leaders Elect Committee

A county committee of five men is elected by leaders of local clubs, subject to the approval of the farm bureau board.

The county committee writes the program for the boys' 4–H club and holds a joint meeting with local leaders at which time the program is thoroughly discussed and explained. The county agent and a State 4–H club leader sit in at this meeting. The past year no member of the county committee was a local club leader, this plan being adopted so that members of the committee might administer the program without danger of being partial to their own clubs. The county committee plans county tours and helps to select and train the boys' judging teams.

Active and interested local leaders have been one of the main features of the success of the Clay County organization. The county has 13 active township boys' clubs, only three townships being unorganized. The program has been carried on without the assistance of a club agent, the local leaders assuming many of the responsibilities that such an agent would carry. Clay County is the only one of the 23 highest counties in enrollment that does not have a club agent.

Clay County's enrollment last year was 307 boys, of whom 87 percent completed their project, compared with 82 percent for the average county in Iowa.

"It is popular to be a club leader in Clay County", says E. E. Morrison, county agent, "because we carry such a heavy program and the boys engage in so many activities that the leaders consider it an honor. Furthermore, boys elect their own leader, subject to the approval of the county farm bureau board. Most of the leaders serve for 3 or 4 years."

Businessmen Help

Cooperation of businessmen has also stimulated club work. Eight years ago the senior chamber of commerce donated 30 purebred dairy heifers of different breeds to boys interested in dairy-calf club work. Most of these calves and their offspring are still in the county.

The cooperation of the Clay County Fair, managed by a fair board consisting of farmers and one businessman, has aided in focusing the attention of boys on club work. A member of the fair board is also a member of the county boys' 4–H committee. This club committee makes its recommendations in regard to the number and size of premiums to be offered, and practically every year the fair board approves the premiums without change. Last year the fair offered $2,400 in premiums on boys' and girls' 4–H club exhibits. About 90 percent of the 250 boys in livestock projects exhibited at the show.

The junior chamber of commerce and the Iowa Lamb Feeders' Association sponsored the first Junior Western Lamb Feeders' show last fall. Clay County 4–H members had 15 pens with 16 lambs each. At the district show, in which 7 counties participated, 55 pens with 16 lambs each were entered. These lambs were sold on grade to packer buyers at a premium of $1 per hundred pounds above the opening market. The senior chamber of commerce provided $200 in premiums for the show.

The support of the local newspapers in the county has been an important factor in stimulating and building up the 4–H club organization. The Spencer newspaper reporters call daily at the farm bureau office and pick up the 4–H club news along with other information of interest to the public.

The Clay County program outlined with the cooperation of the Extension Service, includes baby beef, pig, poultry, dairy, colt, purebred lamb, demonstration teams, wildlife conservation, and health.

Each month the agent sends to local leaders material which may be used in discussions or which suggests activities for local meetings. Much of this material is obtained from specialists in the Extension Service or from the State 4–H leaders.

This is the first year for demonstration teams. Mr. Morrison trained one team which demonstrated before a meeting of the chamber of commerce and farmers the essentials of creamery separator operation. Later the demonstration was given before three township meetings and a meeting of the Clay and Dickinson County dairy herd-improvement associations. This team was also used in demonstrating to the local leaders how a team should be trained so that they might take the responsibility of training other teams.

In addition to the usual State objectives for boys' 4–H clubs, Clay County groups have worked out objectives for the county, the local club, and the individual. The local club objectives are: Hold at least 10 meetings each year; each group to meet the requirements of a standard club; each local club to be responsible for at least one township farm bureau meeting.

Objectives for the individual member include: Enrollment in one of the county projects; attendance at 75 percent of local club meetings; active participation in at least one club program and in local and county events; and the keeping of a completed and long-time club record.

Clay County also has a good recreation program. A county kitten-ball tournament is conducted each year for regularly enrolled 4–H club members. Last winter a county basketball tournament was conducted in which the trophy was awarded on the basis of the best sportsmanship shown. Judges included the referee and the county committee. Voting on awards was by secret ballot with no discussion.

"The entire program is made possible only through the active help of local leaders and the county committee", says Mr. Morrison. "The whole success of the county club boys' program is based on their work plus the cooperation of businessmen, the press, the county farm bureau, and other local agencies."

What does he think of the Agricultural Adjustment Program?

Hand-outs on a "Hand-out"

HARRY P. MILEHAM
Extension Editor, Vermont

"IT IS A HAND-OUT—that is all it is! And I do not see why they are making it so hard for us to get it."

That is what one farmer recently told me concerning the current agricultural conservation program. His objection was that he has to fill out a work sheet, have his soil tested, give it the proper treatment before seeding to clover, keep receipts for fertilizer and seed, and go through other "red tape"—all just in order to collect a "hand-out."

If that is what the farmers in general are thinking about the agricultural conservation program, there has been substantial failure in the educational program that has been carried on in connection with it. Undoubtedly, when the 1936 program went into effect early last spring, a good many intelligent farmers in the Northeast saw it merely as another invitation to feed at the public trough, though perhaps one designed to appeal to them considerably more than the old A. A. A. programs.

By now, the farmers and some of the public have had the program explained to them, have seen it in operation, and have both thought about it and discussed it. Progress undoubtedly has been made. Many leading farmers—yes, including those who take pride in being stanch Vermonters—appreciate the tie-up of the program with sound Vermont farming practice and the safeguarding of soil resources.

New Stories Tie in Old Program

Probably the outstanding thing of interest in the way the program and the publicity on it have been carried on in Vermont is that the activities have been integrated with the whole agricultural extension program in the State. The point of view is something like this: "Here for years we have been advocating the use of lime, the application of superphosphate, the improvement of farm woodlots, the conservation of maple orchards, and a dozen of the other things encouraged by the agricultural conservation program. Now there is an opportunity for the farmer to obtain needed assistance in carrying out these soundfarming and soil-conserving practices."

In our news stories we do not emphasize "Here is a chance for you to obtain so many dollars per acre from the Government by carrying out this or that practice."

Instead, we may emphasize, in the lead of the story, "Good seed is cheap at any cost; poor seed is time and money lost," or, "The raising of green manure crops meets a real need on farms where stable manure is lacking or inadequate in supply," or, "A balanced and adequate diet is as important to plants as it is to people."

After bringing out the need for and desirability of the practice from a soundfarming viewpoint, we say something like this: "In recognition of the importance of this practice, the 1937 agricultural conservation program for the State provides that farmers who carry it out may receive soil-building payments under the terms of the program."

In this and similar ways, in Vermont, the information on the agricultural conservation program has been made one with the information on the regular agricultural extension program. This is the case whether the item under consideration is a news story issued from the State office, a news story written by a county agent, or a radio talk or discussion.

These are some of the mechanics of how the agricultural conservation information program has been carried out in Vermont this year. In January, soon after the program was approved, the executive officer in charge of the program and the extension editor, aided by the extension specialists in agronomy, forestry, and horticulture, drafted a schedule of general news stories, subject-matter news stories, and radio talks.

This information schedule provided for two subject-matter stories a week on the program from the middle of January to May, these stories to be released through and localized by county agricultural agents. It also provided for a number of other stories on the program to be sent directly to the newspapers of the State. In addition, it provided for 12 radio talks on the program from the middle of January to July 1.

This schedule has been used as a guide but has not been followed in detail. However, it has been followed fairly well, has been modified to suit developing needs, and has been augmented by additional stories and radio programs.

The agricultural conservation information program in Vermont, as I have said, has not been spectacular. No banner headlines have proclaimed it from the top of page 1. Nevertheless, stories on

(*Continued on page 144*)

Demonstration Farms Well Planned

Three-Way Cooperation Develops Soil-Conservation Demonstrations in Virginia

IN Virginia, the farmer, the Extension Service, and the Soil Conservation Service are cooperating in a program to demonstrate approved methods of soil conservation. This cooperative program was started as an experiment in the summer of 1936 in Charlotte County under the direct supervision of the county agent.

Charlotte County is located in the southern piedmont section of Virginia, and its soils, crops, and climate are typical of that section. Tobacco growing is the main farming industry, but on many farms livestock production is practiced and a more diversified type of agriculture is followed. The loss of approximately 25 to 75 percent of the topsoil on 80 percent of the farming land in that area illustrates the need of proper soil-conservation practices. The response of most of the soil types to proper treatment is very marked, even where severe erosion has occurred.

The county soil conservation committee selected 18 farms to serve as demonstrations. These farms were approved by the county agent and the assistant agent. The farms selected are scattered over the county and are representative of the soil types and cropping systems of the particular community in which each is located. They are all representative farms where proper soil-conservation practices would afford good demonstrations.

Invitations were issued to the operators of these farms to attend a soil-conservation meeting. At this meeting an outline of the procedure that would be followed in planning the farm was explained in detail. It was stressed that this was a cooperative undertaking with the farmer, the Extension Service, and the Soil Conservation Service and a project of the county. The Government was to furnish only technical assistance. The farmer must furnish labor, materials, seeds, and fertilizer, and pay for all terracing. Every farmer present agreed to cooperate in such a program.

Before the program was started on soil, slope, erosion, and land-use maps were made for each farm. These maps enabled those planning the program to better adapt the practices to the particular conditions on each farm and to leave with each farmer a complete map of his farm. The maps were prepared by members of the Soil Conservation Service staff.

After the map was prepared, the development of the farm plan was begun. The county agent or his assistant and a member of the Extension Service, or a representative of the Soil Conservation Service, went over the entire farm with the operator and worked out with him a land-utilization plan which provided for soil and water conservation. The goal is a complete coordinated program covering a 5-year period which includes proper rotations, fertilizing and liming practices, pasture establishment and improvement, strip croping, terracing, contour tillage where feasible, woodland management, and, in general, balancing the crops, livestock, and other farming enterprises.

Before the farm plan is completed, it is discussed in detail as it is essential that the farmer understand and approve the plan if it is to be successful. The memorandum is not legally binding on either party, stating only the willingness of all parties concerned to cooperate in the program and to demonstrate the value of proper soil-conservation practices and better-balanced farming to the community in which the demonstration is located.

After the farmer expresses his willingness to cooperate and signs the memorandum, the plan is gone over carefully by representatives of the extension division and the Soil Conservation Service to determine the practicability of the plan for the particular farm.

If the plan is satisfactory, it is signed by the representatives of the two cooperating agencies. The plan must be flexible to a limited extent and subject to changes where and when necessary. Major changes to be made after the plan is in operation will be discussed by representatives of the cooperating agencies. Representatives of the Extension Service and the Soil Conservation Service will visit the farms as often as necessary to assist the county agent in carrying out the program. The responsibility for and the detailed supervision of these farms rests mainly on the county agent and his assistants. It is one of the county agent's projects on which aid is given by the two cooperating agencies.

The plan as outlined on these farms will require several years to complete, and it is a long-time program that will help to conserve soil. Complete results cannot be expected as rapidly as with some other types of demonstrations. A visit to each farm during February and March found every cooperator making progress with his plan. Many had progressed more rapidly than the outline specified. Seed had been purchased for spring seeding; lime had been spread, rotations started, and other features of the plan put into practice. The farmers seemed to have grasped thoroughly the idea of making their farms demonstrations for their neighbors. What is still more significant, the neighboring farmers are calling on these demonstrators and studying the farm plans.

The farmers and county agent in Amherst County also asked for such a program. Six farm plans were completed in that county during February. These plans were worked out the same as in Charlotte County. Other counties will be included in this program as rapidly as the limited personnel will allow.

AS there are no opportunities in many parts of Alaska for boys to carry on strictly agricultural projects, they have turned to the baking project. Among the places where there are opportunities for men cooks in Alaska are the mining camps, the many boats, the fish-canning camps, and the restaurants. A large number of bachelors also do their own cooking. No doubt, all of these things contribute to the interest of the boys in food preparation.

In the Seward Baking Club there has been a 100 percent attendance this past year. On one occasion an 11-year-old member taking the second-year baking project made 12 loaves of nut bread for an American Legion affair, and the people in the town are still talking about how good they were.

Farmer and Engineer Form New Partnership for Flood Control

Old Man River is on the carpet. For the first time, a comprehensive plan is being outlined for an attack from different angles on the twin problems of flood control and keeping the soil at home. M. S. Eisenhower, new coordinator of land-use planning for the Department of Agriculture, tells how flood-control efforts are being coordinated and intensified.

M. S. EISENHOWER
Coordinator of Land-Use Planning

Consolidation of Effort

The Omnibus Flood Control Act of 1936 brings together, for a coordinated attack on floods, the engineers of the War Department and workers of the Department of Agriculture. It is the first Federal legislation that recognizes in a truly comprehensive way the unity of watershed protection and downstream engineering.

The Army engineers have, for more than 50 years, been building levees, dams, and other structures on the major waterways. For nearly 75 years the Department of Agriculture and State experiment stations have been conducting research, the result of which forms the scientific foundation of proper land use. During the last 30 years, the Congress has assigned to the Department more and more responsibility for the administration of soil-conservation and moisture-conservation programs that have a direct bearing on flood prevention and control.

Now the Congress has recognized the desirability of bringing together the work of the two departments.

The act assigns to the War Department the job on the rivers; to the Department of Agriculture it assigns the job on the small streams and on the land. Both departments are directed to make preliminary examinations and, where feasible, subsequent detailed surveys which serve as a basis for recommendations to Congress as to what work actually should be done.

Research and demonstrations have shown conclusively that forests and grass and conservation farming practices can retard the run-off from watersheds, check erosion of the soil, and diminish silting of streams, dams, and reservoirs.

Synchronized Program Essential

The question is no longer whether the land phase of flood control is technically feasible. The real question is whether individuals, local units of governments, the States, and the Federal Government can synchronize their efforts in applying these facts in actual practice.

The Department of Agriculture is now beginning the work that the Omnibus Flood Control Act assigns to it. In cooperation with the War Department, it is starting the preliminary examinations of 222 watersheds designated in the act. If these examinations indicate that work on the watershed is technically feasible and economically justified, detailed surveys will be made to serve as a basis in preparing actual control plans. These plans in turn will be incorporated in reports to Congress which must, of course, authorize actual control work, watershed by watershed. Accordingly, three steps are involved in the Department's activity under the act before field operations can be started—the preliminary examination,

the detailed survey, and the submission of fairly specific recommendations to Congress.

Plight of Soil Long Recognized

In many respects, the new flood-control program is merely a coordination of work long under way in the Department. The Department is now carrying on extensive conservation operations in cooperation with thousands of farmers. Demonstrations of soil and water conservation conducted by the Soil Conservation Service in 43 States have a direct bearing on flood control. The program of the Service looks forward to the time when the farmers themselves, organized in local groups and with technical guidance, can do a great deal of the necessary control work themselves. This will be made possible under Soil Conservation District Acts which have already been adopted by 22 States.

Legally constituted districts will facilitate cooperation between Federal, State, and local agencies in land treatment for flood control. They are permissive, authorizing farmers to organize soil-conservation districts which will have the power to cooperate in soil-conservation work. The districts are organized only after a favorable vote of those concerned, and land-use regulations may be adopted only by the landowners and occupiers themselves approving the regulations by referendum vote. Once approved, the regulations are binding on all the land in a district.

Other branches of the Department are engaged in work having an important bearing on flood control. The Forest Service carries on a closely related, Nation-wide program of better land utilization. It manages the national forest system which includes more than 170,000,000 acres in 32 States and 2 Territories. It cooperates with the States which have large forest areas under their administration, and with private timber owners and operators in fire prevention and related forest work.

Farmers have cooperated extensively in soil-conserving practices under the agricultural-adjustment program and subsequently under the soil-conservation and domestic-allotment program.

The Weather Bureau contributes necessary climatological information and manages the flood warning service.

Research of the Department plays its part. Programs must rest on the fundamentals of soil science and biology and upon the mapping of soil types and the determination of their nature and capabilities for crop production under different types of management.

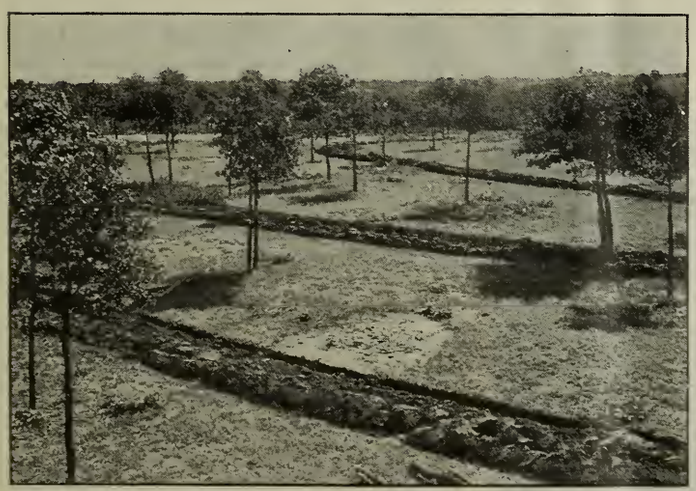
New Attack on Two Fronts

Developments since the early months of 1936—the passage of the Omnibus Flood Control Act, the adoption by States of soil conservation district laws, the organization of flood control coordinating groups in Washington and in the field, and the establishment of a coordinating office covering the whole field of land-use planning—pave the way for a new, more effective attack. We are in a position to meet fully the complex causes of floods by considering and coordinating measures to cope with the problem from its origin where raindrops fall on field and forest.

Work on the land will not make the great engineering structures in major streams less necessary. Nor do the river structures solve the problem on the land. Both phases must be dealt with. On the land we know that the work will contribute five distinct things to flood control:

1. Save the soil for farming, grazing, and forestry.
2. Eliminate what would otherwise be recurring minor floods.
3. Reduce the volume and speed of run-off.
4. Greatly reduce the sedimentation of reservoirs.
5. Minimize the silting of stream channels.

FARMERS AID ENGINEERS BY USING DEVICES TO HOLD THE RAIN



Contributions of the farmer in alleviating flood damage include contour furrows in wooded pastures (lower left), diversion ditches coupled with vegetation that holds the soil and conserves moisture (lower right), check dams to retard the flow of run-off water (upper right), and other structures on thousands of farms. These efforts go far in helping control floods at their sources.

Arkansas Farm Homemakers Take a Vacation

FRANCES L. STANLEY
Assistant Agricultural Editor

HERE is a strange state of affairs for a National Guard camp!

Life at Camp Pike is fairly upside down. Instead of the sound of feet marching in military precision, there is the rustle of feminine skirts, parading, of all things, in a style dress revue.

A sensible National Guard member would seek shelter elsewhere and satisfy his curiosity by reading the newspapers.

The newspapers could tell him plenty, for Camp Pike, about 10 miles out of Little Rock, Ark., early in August is the scene of a unique gathering. Here come 1,100 women from all corners of Arkansas, under strict instructions to bring along no husbands, and no babies! Farm homemakers they are, who come for a few days' rest, and to learn something new about their jobs as housewives, mothers, and partners in the all-important business of making a living and a home out of the soil.

Tried for the first time in the summer of 1933, the camp was merely an experiment, but now it is an established institution, long looked forward to and planned for by the farm women of the State.

Camp Pike is an ideal spot for such a gathering. Established during the World War as a State training camp and the home of the Arkansas National Guard, it is well equipped to handle even such an unmilitary group as these rural clubwomen. And, dedicated as it is to the defense of the fireside, it does not seem at all inappropriate or out of place to use it for a few days out of the year as a meeting place for women engaged in the tasks of homemaking.

The 2 days are full and busy ones. Meals at the camp are gay affairs—and why not? Food is plentiful, and what is even more important, it is prepared by Army cooks. No meals to get, no dishes to wash. This is a real vacation.

Then there are all the exhibits to see. The clothing exhibits would astound the city fashion-plate lady who still entertains the notion that her farm sister does not know how to keep herself in style. These farm women who bring the products of their sewing machines to be entered in the camp contest not only are up on the styles but know how to make their own clothes with a "custom-made" finish. Perhaps the dress contests that the home demonstration clubs have been carrying on in the State have had something to do with the attractiveness of the costumes in the exhibit. Anyway, the proof is there, and milady looks very "swank" indeed in her afternoon party dress and charmingly efficient in the pretty cotton house dress, all made either by hand or on the home sewing machine.

Not the least interesting in the clothing exhibit are the children's clothes, both new and those coming under the head of "thrift" or made-over garments. Anything from burlap sacks to the remains of dad's store suit go into the making of these gay little garments for play, school, and Sunday best.

A busy spot at the camp, and one that savors richly of the originality of the farm homemaker, is the home industries exhibit. First to provide their own homes with attractive furnishings, and then as a means of adding a little extra cash to the ever-yawning cavity in the family pocketbook, these Arkansas farm women have looked at the raw materials about them and found them good.

Down at Lloyd England Hall, where the main program goes on, is plenty of excitement. Speeches, debates, pep songs, in which Mrs. Farmer demonstrates that she can sing as well as she can call in the chickens, are the order of the day.

Recreation is an important item at Camp Pike.

But if the visitor gives all his attention to the speaker's platform, he would miss the greatest inspiration of this unusual assembly, that is, the farm women who fill the auditorium and who listen with eager attention to everything that is going on.

It is a difficult task to imprison the spirit of these 1,100 rural homemakers in a few printed words. Light-hearted as they are, there is an undercurrent of seriousness, a consciousness that much more is going on here than just a few days' relief from household tasks.

Life has been far from easy for the Arkansas farm housewife the past few years. Floods have threatened her home and made useless months of toil. Insects have eaten their way through an entire season's crops; and, heartbreakingly, day after day, she has searched the hot, blue sky for one sign of the rain that would save the fields withering and dying before her eyes, fields that to her mean clothes to wear and food in the pantry and a chance for better things next year—all this, to say nothing of depression, a man-made burden to add to Mother Nature's toll.

But these women at Camp Pike have an answer to all these discouragements, and it shines in their eyes and rings in their voices as they listen to the speeches and talk with their camp neighbors. Faith and courage! Not blind faith either—far from it! These are not the kind of women who will fold their hands and wait for something to happen. They are women who do things and make them happen!

And as they sit in that auditorium, they listen to a veritable parade of things that have been accomplished. It is a festival of achievement. County after county make their annual reports. "These things we have done, and these things we will do." Summing it all up is the State council president's report, and it would take a man of stone to sit through the reading of that report without thrilling at the courage, the unfailing purpose, of these Arkansas farm women who have seen a vision and striven toward it, undaunted by the specter of depression and dried-up fields.

Making the Most of Pictures

Variety In the Use of Stills Makes Teaching Effective

"Flexibility and variety are basic", says Mr. Johnson, who advocates that good demonstrations be recorded in motion pictures, still pictures, both in color and in black and white, so that every possible visual use can be made of the material in the present and in the future. Next month he will tell of the use of motion pictures in Pennsylvania.

GEORGE F. JOHNSON
Specialist in Visual Instruction,
Pennsylvania

THE products of photography have, perhaps, a more vital bearing on effectiveness in agricultural and home-economics extension teaching than in the classroom form of agricultural education. The reason for this is that farmers are most impressed by actually seeing what other farmers have done. Tours, demonstrations, and the various forms of visual instruction—lantern slides, film strips, and motion pictures—have necessarily become essential and popular methods of agricultural extension teaching.

Many aspects of visual instruction are relatively new. In fact, new or more effective ways to use pictures to enlighten rural groups are being reported frequently.

Use of Paper Prints

With elaborate projection equipment available, we are sometimes inclined to neglect or overlook the simpler ways for using pictures. From the hundreds of photographs of extension work available in Pennsylvania numerous lantern slides and several film strips have been made, but more use has been made of the photographed subjects in the form of paper prints than in any other way. Several thousand of these prints have been made for members of the agricultural and home-economics extension staff who carry them in folders, mounted on cardboard or classified and placed in albums.

These pictures are used: (1) At small meetings where projection is impractical or impossible; (2) after a lantern slide talk to clear up points of discussion; and (3) on farm and home visits to show, for example, types of structures, inexpensive methods of ventilation, or ways of remodeling kitchens. This type of visual instruction is widely used by the home-economics staff. Several extension workers carry 50 or more illustrations constantly as visual-instruction aids.

Pictorial displays have been made very useful by several county extension associations in Pennsylvania. R. H. McDougall, Butler County, mounts pictures on cardboard, grouping them according to subject matter. These displays are always available for inspection in his office, are used at community-day programs, and are a center of interest at the annual extension meeting.

County Agent L. F. Rothrock made excellent use of photographs at the annual meeting of the Perry County Extension Association last January. He arranged pictures and bulletins on triple-weight white cardboards and strung them on wire between windows in the meeting hall. Rothrock reports the only mistake made was in not allowing more time for the people to study the pictures and the descriptive matter accompanying each.

Several extension workers who have used both paper prints and lantern slides of the same picture report that helpful discussions are frequently started when pictures are passed among the people at a meeting after the same pictures have been projected as lantern slides. Pictures in the hands of the people give more opportunity for individual thought than when following the extension worker's discussion of a lantern slide.

Tinted enlargements have been found very valuable by the agronomy specialists in extension teaching of soil erosion and its control. Soil-erosion subjects frequently lack sufficient contrast to make good black-and-white paper prints or lantern slides. By tinting paper enlargements, a more natural effect is obtained. In small meetings, the pictures are placed in proper sequence along one wall of the room, and the extension worker explains each picture, with the farmers gathered about. Some work is being done this year with natural color photographs of agronomy subjects for lantern-slide material.

D. C. Henderson, poultry extension specialist, uses pictures mounted in an album to aid in explaining poultry equipment.

Tips for Users of Lantern Slides

The lantern slide has been more widely used than any other means of visual instruction in Pennsylvania by both the agricultural and the home-economics workers. Its adaptability, its ease of rearrangement, and its possibility of localization will, no doubt, make it valuable in extension work for years to come. Two rather common faults in the use of lantern slides are: (1) The temptation to project the pictures larger than necessary, thereby losing brightness and sharpness of detail, and (2) the inclination to use too many slides in one talk. For the average extension meeting of 30 to 100 people, it will be found that projecting the lantern slide on a good screen, 39 inches by 52 inches, will be sufficient for detailed study. Extension workers who are making the best use of lantern slides in Pennsylvania seldom use more than 20 slides for one talk. One of the poultry extension specialists had the unusual experience at a county-wide meeting last winter of having to show a set of slides twice to the same group in one day—the second showing by spontaneous and unanimous vote

of the audience. He attributed this response to the fact that he used only 14 well-selected slides, each having direct bearing upon a local problem.

The film strip is being used in Pennsylvania as an inexpensive means for making available pictures covering subjects of State-wide interest. A film strip of 50 pictures can be acquired for about the cost of five 5-inch by 7-inch paper prints. The film strip is also found useful as a means of showing a series of pictures having a natural sequence, such as the method of building a farm structure or the steps in marketing a farm product. Film strips of this type are made by direct photography in the field.

Another valuable use of pictures is to supplement the public information service of the county extension associations. J. W. Warner, county agent, Indiana County, uses cut film holders and is able to deliver exposed film and descriptive matter to his local newspaper the same day the exposures are made. The film is developed in the newspaper office, and the illustrated story is published in the daily newspaper within 48 hours. Unless pictures of extension events can be made available to the daily press within a few hours after the event is concluded, their news value is reduced greatly.

Lone 4–H Club Members

Pima County, Ariz., has some lone club members, because the population is sparse in sections. These "lone scouts" in extension possess considerable perseverance. Mable Land, of Sahuarita, a "one-girl 4–H club", won first place in the county canning contest where she entered her products in competition with the adults. The fruits, vegetables, and meat in her exhibit were all produced on the ranch of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Land.

In the State canning contest, again in competition with adults, Mable placed tenth. Her jar of canned rabbit was chosen as one of the best single jars, and it was circulated round the State with the "big dozen" best jars which journeyed to the cities and towns of Arizona.

Lone club members of Pima County, along with older 4–H club girls and boys, have organized a 5–H leadership group. What the fifth H stands for is disclosed when new members are initiated; only the charter members have the key to the secret at present. These 5–H'ers will do some project work and will spend time on problems of leadership, learning to lead games, song services, discussion groups, community enterprises, and to do social-service work.

Maine Holds Health Clinics

Preschool Children Examined

MORE than 1,900 children of preschool age in rural Maine received thorough medical examinations last year at clinics conducted by the Extension Service in cooperation with local doctors, nurses, health officers, and groups of local women. Mothers made changes in the diet of many of these children to correct nutritional defects.

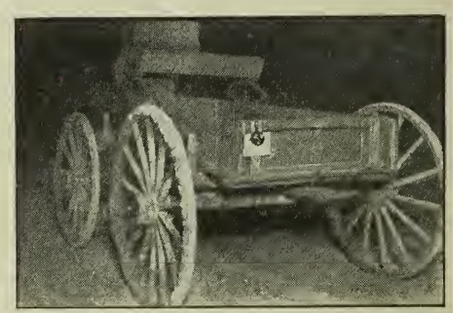
Leone M. Dakin, extension foods specialist, headed the project which she had inaugurated the previous year, and assisted the county home demonstration agents in organizing the clinics. The home demonstration agent invited the mothers to bring their children to the clinic; arranged for the services of a doctor and a nurse (usually the county health officer and the county nurse), and a dental hygienist whenever available, and discussed nutrition problems with the mothers individually.

A committee representing the local extension organization furnished the agent with a list of mothers of preschool children, engaged the meeting place which was heated and conveniently arranged, and many times provided transportation for mothers and children who had no means of conveyance. One of the committee acted as hostess and welcomed the mothers and placed them at their ease. Others prepared the children for examination and assisted the doctor and nurse, who made a written report on each child for the use of the mother. Finally, the home demonstration agent discussed with the mothers the possibility for tonsil operations, dental work, or other suggested corrections and advised with them concerning changes in the diet to overcome nutritional defects.

Last year, the home demonstration agents held 71 clinics; 1,204 mothers attended, and 1,926 children received examinations. As a result of conferences with the agents, 780 mothers decided to serve milk, 799 to serve vegetables, and 773 to serve fruits to their children in amounts recommended for an adequate diet.

Much follow-up work was done by local people after the clinics were held. In Cumberland County, the county nurse has checked every child, and all corrections that the doctors advised have been made. The Scarboro Civic League and the Pownal Red Cross have given financial assistance. In Houlton, doctors and dentists have held follow-up clinics and made corrections at reduced rates. In Steuben, 61 children have had the test for tuberculosis. Many other cases needing immediate attention have received care.

This season, the Maine Department of Health and Welfare is cooperating with the Extension Service in holding preschool clinics. Dr. Herbert R. Kobes, medical director of child hygiene, representing the Social Security Administration, is engaging the doctors, nurses, and dental hygienists. The Extension Service is responsible for all other arrangements. Already more than 120 preschool clinics have been scheduled.



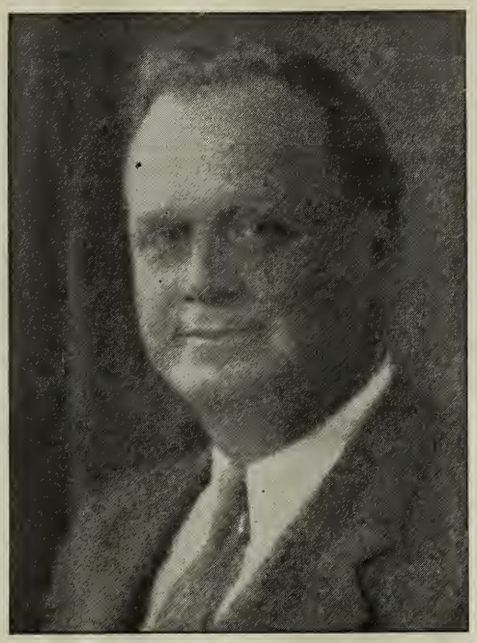
Agent Promotes Safety

Kit Smith, county agent of Saline County, Ark., is cooperating with the Benton-Bauxite Rotary Club in a campaign to reduce highway accidents through the distribution of tail-gate reflectors.

The "nite-lite" reflectors were purchased by the club and were distributed free to farmers who frequently use the main highways after dark. The device is 3 inches in diameter and contains three bull's-eye reflectors which may be seen a distance of 1,000 feet. It was officially recommended and accepted by the Arkansas State Highway Department.

Many serious accidents have occurred as the result of unlighted wagons on the highways, and Mr. Smith is working with the Rotary club in an effort to reduce traffic fatalities.

Introducing Ellwood Douglass



An Agent Who Has Handled the Job In One County for 20 Years

TWENTY years as county agent in one of the most prosperous agricultural counties in the United States is the record just hung up in Monmouth County, N. J., by Ellwood Douglass.

Nearly 300 of his farmers, local business men and associates in agricultural extension work honored Mr. Douglass at a testimonial dinner to celebrate the occasion at Freehold, the county seat. The affair was staged as a complete surprise. The guest of honor thought he was going to a routine meeting and had to be convinced that he had not mistakenly crashed the gates into the wrong dinner when he saw the big assemblage.

"It is the first thing that ever happened around his office that 'Doug' did not know about", was the comment of Mr. Douglass' assistant, Marvin Clark.

That capacity for knowing about everything that affects Monmouth County's agriculture and to "keep his finger on" every happening is, according to his associates, one of the reasons for the success of Mr. Douglass' long service as county agent.

Although the extension specialists and other field workers often joke about "stopping in at Doug's office to get a license to go around and see the farmers", they respect his wishes because they know that their visits and mail and phone contacts with him are more than a polite gesture. Mr. Douglass keeps himself posted on every operative's activities, because he is then able to prevent inefficient duplication of service as well as to give the benefits of his long acquaintance with Monmouth County farms and farmers.

Another interesting side light is the way Mr. Douglass has been typified as the "walking chamber of commerce of Monmouth agriculture." When he is beyond the borders of his own county, he sings the praises of its farms with so much fervor that the far-famed boosters of California or Florida would have to take a back seat. Other county agents in New Jersey, also praise-singers with good cause, often preface any comment about their own counties' agricultural excellence with "after the usual apologies to Mr. Douglass and his famous county, etc."

Monmouth's 2,762 farmers, with a total crop area of about 100,000 acres, have been earning from 7 to 13 million dollars a year for nearly 2 decades. For many years Monmouth ranked in the forefront of the top-ranking agricultural counties of the Nation and in 1 year led the Nation in income per acre. Fifteen thousand acres are devoted to Monmouth County potatoes, and there are 10,000 acres in fruit, 18,000 acres in vegetables, 20,000 acres in pasture, 22,000 acres in cereal grains, and 15,000 acres in hay. Cow population fluctuates with the fortunes of the potato market, the average being from 6,000 to 7,000 milkers.

Mr. Douglass was up in the branches of a south Jersey apple tree, showing a neighbor how to prune it, 25 years ago when he received the inspiration to become a county agent. The neighbor told him that he was "hiding his light under a bushel" if he didn't go into extension work. New Jersey's first county agent, John Hankinson, had just been named. On November 1, 1914, Mr. Douglass was appointed Atlantic County agent, the fifth in the State. In 1917, he took over the office in Monmouth County.

"We had no extension specialist in those days", Mr. Douglass reminisces, "so I had to become a lot of specialists all rolled up in one man. I studied over at Rutgers and carried the lessons I learned back to my farmers."

He also built up what is believed to be one of the most comprehensive extension libraries to be found in any county agent's office. Every bulletin, circular, report, book, newspaper, or magazine clipping, every printed or written word that had any possible connection with Monmouth County agriculture went into the library.

Mr. Douglass says he "tried to cover the complete field of extension work." Long ago, he started to improve the credit and debt conditions of his farmers by working closely with bankers as the farmers' representative. Both the farmers and the bankers are grateful for the service he rendered.

His guiding hand was in the founding of the big Newark Farmers' Market, and he helped to organize the Tri-County Auction Market at Hightstown and the North Shore Market at Bradley Beach.

"Really, I ought to have been the one to give the dinner to all these people, instead of their honoring me", Mr. Douglass said after the testimonial. "The men who have surrounded me all these years have been sufficiently farsighted to permit me to try out what I believed to be good, even if they did not agree with me. With the wonderful help of the extension specialists, research workers, and representatives of all agricultural agencies, and the willingness of the farmers to work with the county agent's office, many seemingly impossible things have been accomplished."

In the national field of extension work, Mr. Douglass is best known as a former president of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, having served in 1934. He is now a member of the committee on land utilization and national program planning.

North Carolina Ready for Electricity

THE coming of rural electrification to North Carolina brought a new problem to the Extension Service, that of teaching farm people the importance of safe and adequate wiring.

When the first rural power lines were constructed, most of the country families on these lines were eager to get their wiring done as cheaply as possible. They did not realize the danger and inconvenience of poor wiring.

The results were often a cruel disappointment. Many families that had made real sacrifices to pay for their wiring found that it was not adequate to light their homes and operate electrical appliances. Bulbs burned dimly, appliances were sluggish, and the wires heated up.

At a little extra cost they could have put in adequate wiring at first. But they could not afford the additional expense of taking out the old, inadequate wiring and replacing it with good wiring.

Rural Electrification Schools

To help country people to avoid these mistakes, D. E. Jones, North Carolina State College rural electrification specialist, and Pauline Gordon, extension specialist in home management and house furnishings, arranged to hold rural electrification schools in communities where new rural power lines were being strung.

The county farm and home agents were asked to arrange for schools in their respective counties and to invite all interested farm people to attend. Invitations were also extended to electricians and representatives of power companies.

More than 200 schools have been held with an average attendance of 20 to 25 farm men and women and sometimes a crowd of 50 or more.

The main objective has been to give the people a better understanding of just what constitutes safe, adequate, and convenient wiring. Farm families were urged to draw diagrams of their homes and plan for all the lighting equipment and other appliances that they would want or need. Consideration was given the uses to which electricity would be put in each room.

Panels were used to illustrate how overloading can lower the efficiency of lights and equipment.

Wiring schools predominated during the first 8 or 10 months the schools were held, but now the extension specialists find more attention must be given to farm and household appliances.

Besides illustrating the proper placement of the right kind of lighting fixtures, the specialists also discuss the numerous uses to which electricity can be put in lightening the tasks of the farm family, making the home more livable, and decreasing the costs of doing certain types of work.

When possible, various appliances are displayed to show how they operate and what they do. Chief interest at present is centering on refrigerators, pumps, motors, washing machines, radios, hot plates, electric irons, vacuum cleaners, and feed grinders.

Farmer Cuts Grinding Cost

In Orange County, a farmer found that he could grind his own feed with an electrically operated grinder at a cost of 60 cents to $1 a ton. He had been paying $4 a ton to have it ground in a nearby town. "Telling the people about such examples as this helps to arouse their interest in getting for themselves the advantages of electricity", Jones stated.

One farmer told Mr. Jones that if he had to give up electricity, he would quit farming.

Nearly all persons attending the schools have manifested a keen interest in better wiring and the use of appliances. Through newspaper publicity and by word of mouth the value of the schools is made known in virtually all rural communities where new lines have been or are being installed, and for a time Mr. Jones and Miss Gordon were almost swamped with requests to hold schools.

Oregon County Survey Discloses a Demand for Modern Plumbing

A rural sanitation project was started in Jackson County, Oreg., in January 1937. This project developed as the result of a study of various surveys which had previously been made in the county. An analysis was made of the surveys during the summer session of 1936 at Oregon State College, in a class for extension workers which was conducted by Mary Rokahr and Gladys Gallup of the Extension Service, Washington, D. C.

It was found that 52.4 percent of the county was publicly owned and that only 17 percent was in farms. The average farm consisted of 104.6 acres. (This county is rich in orchards—peach, pear, apricot, and nut.) The average value of the farms was $6,551, and it was found that most of them were operated by full owners—2,135 of the 2,901 farm operators being full owners.

Of the 1,315 homes surveyed for housing conditions, it was found that only 37 percent of the houses were less than 10 years old and that 8 percent were more than 50 years old. Upon questioning the families on what would be their first improvement, 47 percent of them expressed a desire for "water systems which would lead to sanitary facilities."

The surveys further disclosed that 844 of the 1,315 homes, or 64 percent, had unimproved outdoor toilets and that 52 percent needed bathrooms. However, 72 percent of these homes had electricity.

As a result of this analysis, eight district all-day meetings were held in Jackson County in January. These meetings were conducted by the home demonstration agent, agricultural agent, and specialist in agricultural engineering. An illustrated talk was given by the home demonstration agent on "The first improvement for your home." "Sanitation in the home" was discussed by the specialist in agricultural engineering. The county agent demonstrated and discussed "A water system that will serve you."

At the conclusion of the meeting, home demonstrators were enrolled. Fifteen homes were enrolled as demonstration homes for the installation of plain water systems, including equipment; 12 for hot and cold water systems; 10 for bathrooms; and 23 for septic tanks.

Demonstrations on installations were conducted by the specialist in agricultural engineering during June. As a long-time project in rural sanitation, it is planned to reach 47 percent of the farm homes which need water systems.

FOLLOW-UP visits to the fields of approximately 3,000 cooperating Illinois farmers are now in progress as a step in the coordinated soil-improvement and erosion-control activities which the county agents are carrying out in 67 counties. The farms of these rural leaders are being developed as effective demonstration places for the future educational program in the soil-saving project. The first step in the work—soil-testing meetings and the spreading of limestone phosphate— is well under way throughout the State.

Kansas Women Enjoy Book Reviews

"ADULTS are just children grown up", says W. Pearl Martin, home health and sanitation specialist, Kansas State College Extension Service. "The interest evidenced by Kansas farm bureau women in my book-reviewing project is just one proof of that statement."

About 10 years ago Miss Martin began by telling selected stories and reviewing popular books at women's vacation camps. Now the book reviews and discussions have become one of the "looked forward to" portions of unit meetings in many Kansas counties.

The prize-winning booth on home furnishings at the 1935 Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, supplied the money for purchasing Sedgwick County's first farm bureau library. Mrs. Laura I. Winters, home demonstration agent of Sedgwick County, said: "The book reviews now being given by the unit leaders as part of the cultural program are adding much in value and enjoyment to the regular and necessary projects, such as foods and nutrition, home health and sanitation, home furnishings and clothings."

Progress or Decline?

(*Continued from page 129*)

putting of rolling land into grass will be much more widely employed. More labor-saving machinery should come into use, and I should anticipate that our children in 1962 might be able to produce as much corn with 20 hours of labor as grandpa produced with 100 hours. I am anticipating also that unless there are great disasters of one sort or another, we should be able to change our methods of breeding and feeding hogs so as to produce 100 pounds of gain with 100 pounds less feed than is the case today. I know that it will be possible for the farmers of 1962 to produce the necessary pork for the people of the United States with about one-half as much labor and land as they use today. Similar advances can be made in the Cotton Belt. Seventy-five years ago it took more than 300 hours of labor to produce a bale of cotton. Today it takes about 200 hours, and I am confident that by the year 1962 it will be possible to produce a bale with not much more than 100 hours of labor.

Fight the Good Fight

When you look into the future you realize that life is a continual battle, and that the outcome can never be certain. Year after year we shall have the most complex problems of adjustment to unusual weather, pests, diseases, as well as the impact of inventions and new methods. All of these forces will disregard national boundaries and State lines Further complications will arise as a result of the actions of highly nationalistic governments abroad.

Yes, agriculture is more than a local problem. It is more than a national problem, and it will require the positive cooperative efforts of us all to make the necessary adjustments in the years ahead. I hope that the Department of Agriculture's centennial celebration in the year 1962 will recognize, among other things, that we in 1937 had the foresight to recognize the magnitude of the problem and to act accordingly. Let us so act that our children will be proud of us. It is to them that we shall bequeath our soil, our farming methods, our economic understandings, and our social insights.

New Projects for 4–H Club Members

New projects in woodcraft, weaving, tanning and leatherwork, and junior leadership are being made available to New Mexico 4–H club members, according to Emma Hawk, State club specialist of the New Mexico State College.

The woodcraft project is designed to teach boys the use of tools so that they may be able to make repairs around the farm and home, as well as to construct many useful articles. The project will enable boys who have found it impossible to carry agricultural projects to become members of 4–H clubs. It will also be an opportunity for boys who wish a project to fill in the time between fall and spring when not so much time is required in agricultural activities.

The weaving and tanning projects are planned to be used in communities where the home industries work is of importance. Weaving clubs have been organized in Taos, Rio Arriba, and Bernalillo Counties. In this project the club members, with the assistance of the handicraft specialist, build a loom and do a specified amount of weaving. Tanning clubs have been organized in Rio Arriba, Taos, and Hidalgo Counties. In Hidalgo County the club members are using a tanning solution made from canaigre, a native dock or bitter root. The roots of this plant, which somewhat resemble sweetpotatoes, are dried thoroughly. The stock solution made from the roots serves as a yellow dye for the leather, as well as for tanning. For the tanning, it is mixed with a salt alum solution. Belts, halters, bridles, vests, and other useful articles will be made from the finished leather.

SUMMER school students of home management at New York State College of Home Economics visited Broome County, N. Y., to learn how home demonstration clubwomen improve their homes.

Roger B. Corbett

B. W. Ellis

Connecticut Changes Directors

Roger B. Corbett, who was recently appointed director of extension work in Connecticut with the additional title of "Coordinator of agriculture" will be responsible for all phases of agricultural work at the State College.

Director Corbett attended Cornell University where he received the degree of Ph. D. in 1925. After serving as economist at the Rhode Island Experiment Station for 8 years he came to the United States Department of Agriculture in the dairy section of A. A. A. and later was transferred to the economics section of the Extension Service. On April 1, 1936, Dr. Corbett was appointed executive secretary of the New England Research Council on Marketing and Food Supply. This is an organization set up by the United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the six New England States.

Dr. Corbett succeeds Benjamin Ward Ellis who for 14 years has headed the Extension Service which during that time has developed into an effective organization reaching every section of rural Connecticut. During Director Ellis' administration, the Extension Service has received the uninterrupted support of the General Assembly and of the farm people of the State.

Director Ellis' resignation has been contemplated for some time and is in line with a long-time program he has set for himself which includes a return to active farming and the scenes of his earlier life. He will be located at Marshfield, Mass., and will devote personal attention to his fruit farm and cranberry interests in that section.

MORE than 1,000 farmers, ranchers, and their wives attended a barbecue and educational field day at Colorado's high altitude experimental station.

History of Agricultural Research

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The posthumous issuance of the late Dr. A. C. True's History of Agricultural Experimentation and Research in the United States, appearing as Publication 251 in the Miscellaneous Series of the Department of Agriculture, rounds out a series of his three monographs on agricultural education, extension, and research.

This 328-page publication traces the growth of American institutions of agricultural research from 1607 to 1925. As in the preceding monographs, considerable space has been given to examples of the work of private individuals and organizations in laying the foundations for the establishment of public agencies for agricultural research.

Following a discussion of beginnings in the days of the colonies and early statehood, the differentiation of research work conducted directly by the Federal Government and that carried on by the State experiment stations and other agencies is brought out.

Sections are set up dealing in turn with the work of the Federal Government under the Patent Office and by the Department of Agriculture prior to 1889; the movement in the States toward the establishment of agricultural research institutions, 1840–75; State agricultural experiment stations without federal aid, 1875–88; agricultural experiments in States not having experiment stations, 1875–88; the Hatch Act and the stations thereunder, 1888–1905, and the movement for increased Federal aid culminating in the Adams Act, 1902–6; the Department from 1889 to 1897; development of research in agricultural production, 1897–1913, by the Department and the stations; the development of research in agricultural economics and sociology, 1913–21; agricultural experiment stations as affected by the Smith-Lever Extension Act and the World War, 1914–20; and agricultural research during the agricultural depression, 1921–25, by the Department and the stations. The history closes with the enactment of the Purnell Act of 1925.

The publication (paper-bound) may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for 25 cents.

Hand-out on a "Hand-out"

(*Continued from page 134*)

it have been appearing week after week in the daily and weekly press of the State. The county agricultural agents, in addition to localizing subject-matter stories issued from the office of the extension editor, have carried on thorough information programs of their own. In fact, their stories, packed with local interest and news and appearing week after week, have been the backbone of the information program in Vermont.

And for the future? A continuation of the practice of integrating the information on the agricultural conservation program with the regular extension program. And—an endeavor in a field that is still practically uncultivated—a program of information on the broader aspects and objectives of the agricultural conservation program. This would consider, for example, the question, "Why should society, through government, help the farmer to conserve the land resources of the nation?"

As to the "hand-out" attitude? Let it be a challenge to our informational programs!

Historical Film Strips

As the Division of Cooperative Extension has had requests for film strips of general educational interest for the use of the 4–H clubs, home demonstration clubs, and other rural organizations, two historical film strips have been prepared. They may be purchased at the prices indicated from Dewey & Dewey, Kenosha, Wis., after first obtaining authorization from the United States Department of Agriculture. Blanks for this purpose will be supplied upon request to the Division of Cooperative Extension. The film strips are as follows:

Series 331. Rural Colonial and Early American Homes and Gardens.—The series shows some rural colonial and early American homes and country estates, and depicts various types of houses and gardens seldom seen from the highways. 63 frames, 65 cents.

Series 334. Historic Rural Homes.—This series shows some of the old rural homes in which have lived people eminent in history; old houses that show pleasing, simple designs in rural architecture; and farm homes which became noted through successful farm activities. 48 frames, 50 cents.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1937

IN BRIEF • ▪ •

Tenants Become Owners

More than 1,000 tenants bought farms from the Federal land banks in February, March, and April of this year, according to a statement by Governor W. I. Myers of the Farm Credit Administration.

The sale of Federal land bank properties showed that 25 percent of the 4,467 farms sold by the banks in the 3 months were bought by tenants. The remainder were purchased by nontenants.

Tenants were most active as purchasers in the St. Paul district, covering Michigan, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Minnesota, where more than two-thirds of all farms sold by the bank during the period were bought by tenants.

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Terracing

As a result of an extension survey made in Taylor County, Tex., the county agent's office received applications from 176 landowners requesting that terrace lines be run on approximately 18,000 acres of land. All applicants signified their intentions of building the terraces. County Agent J. Knox Parr, Jr., has been assisted by the county commissioners, vocational agricultural instructors, and N. Y. A. personnel in putting over this vast terracing program.

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Cooperative Meat Curing

The curing of pork for home consumption without heavy losses had been an unsolved problem in Columbia County, Ark., until the fall of 1936, when a meat-curing plant was established through the efforts of farm bureau members. County Agent C. U. Robinson, in cooperation with the farm bureau, undertook a survey which resulted in 412 farmers pledging to place 1,200 hogs in a meat-curing plant.

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A Present Help

Recently the village of Lancaster in Erie County, N. Y., experienced a serious flood. In the emergency situation, the Erie County Home Bureau, under the leadership of Home Demonstration Agent Mrs. Natalie Crowe and her assistant, Prudence Wright, approached the acting mayor and the head of the Red Cross and immediately launched a program of first-aid assistance and instruction to the families affected by the flood. A food kitchen was set up in Lancaster, and meals were served to more than 300 persons a day. In many of the homes the water had reached the ceilings on the first floors, and there was terrific damage to furniture and family possessions, in addition to the immediate need created for food and assistance. In most cases the poorest families in the section were affected. The home bureau and the Red Cross enlisted the aid of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to meet the emergency. A school of instruction in how to reclaim and recondition flood-damaged furniture was at once set up by the home bureau, and information is being sent to people throughout the section.

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Fire Prevention

Rural fire prevention was a new activity in 4–H club work the past year in Poweshiek County, Iowa. The inspector of a local insurance company attended several club meetings and gave a talk illustrated with film strips on the causes of farm fires. Each club member was given a fire-prevention record book in which he was to make a report of the inspections made on his home farm. There were 41 inspections made in the county, and 60 fire hazards were removed.

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A Picture Project

South Carolina homemakers in 42 counties have been enjoying the study of "Pictures of lasting beauty." During the past year, 10 masterpieces, mostly by American painters, were studied. The artist and his nationality, something of his life, the composition and beauty of the painting, and where the painting now hangs were also studied. At the end of the club year a picture contest was held. In addition, several counties gave presentations of "Living pictures."

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Celebrating 2,000 "Man-Years" of Service

Illinois Extension Service this year celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the beginning of the State's county agent system. During the quarter of a century since De Kalb and Kankakee Counties employed the first county agent in the State, Illinois agents have totaled more than 2,000 "man-years" of service. Today 101 of the 102 counties are organized for extension work and employ 97 county agents. Fifty-six counties are organized for home-economics extension work and are employing 50 home demonstration agents.

AMONG OURSELVES

NEW MEXICO reports a number of changes. The former Sarah Emma Hawk, club specialist, is now Mrs. Emma H. Briscoe; Mrs. Helen D. Crandall, formerly county home demonstration agent, has been appointed State home demonstration agent; Arra B. Fite, formerly specialist, is now county agent leader; Herbert L. Hildwein, formerly county agent leader, is now assistant director; and William Hart Tolbert, formerly county agent at large, is now extention animal husbandman.

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CAPTAIN TEAGUE S. FISHER, county agent in Washita County, Okla., was killed by lightning June 14 while at Fort Sill attending the regular officers' reserve training corps camp. Captain Fisher was first appointed county agent in Jackson County, Okla., in 1922. Twelve years ago he was transferred to Washita County. "In the death of Mr. Fisher, extension work has lost one of the good county agents", says Dan Diehl, district agent in Oklahoma.

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HARWOOD HULL, JR., extension editor, Puerto Rico Extension Service, made a recent visit north to the mainland, studying extension work in New York and several other States, as well as attending the National 4-H Club Camp and conferring with Department officials. Both Miss Zimmerman of Hawaii and Mr. Hull told of extension work in their home islands over the National Radio Farm and Home Hour during their stay in Washington.

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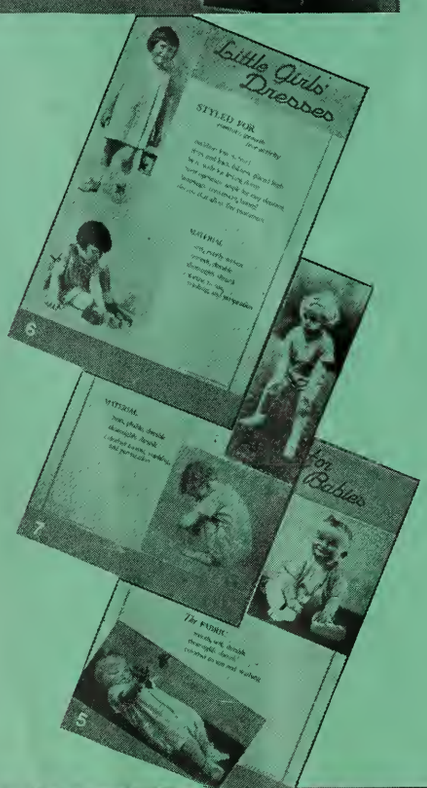
WILLIAM A. LLOYD, in charge of the western section, Division of Cooperative Extension, United States Department of Agriculture, has been designated to serve as technical adviser to the joint preparatory committee of American and Philippine experts, sailing from San Francisco for Manila July 24. Mr. Lloyd's services to the committee will relate chiefly to agricultural education and extension matters. He will have headquarters with the committee in Manila and will assist in studies extending throughout the archipelago. At the conclusion of the studies he will return to the United States Department of Agriculture.



As true today as ever

—that it pays to know what to look for in clothing

Here are nine charts that talk to thrifty women. They were prepared by the Bureau of Home Economics and have been placed on sale by the Superintendent of Documents at 40 cents for the set.

Well illustrated in black and white, size 20 by 30 inches, and printed on strong paper, they are well adapted for use by home demonstration agents and local leaders at extension meetings.

FOR THE WOMAN

1. Cloth Coats for Women.
2. Wash Dresses for Women.
3. Costume Slips.
4. Women's Hosiery.

FOR THE CHILD

5. Rompers for Creeping Babies.
6. Little Girls' Dresses.
7. Little Boys' Suits.
8. Winter Playsuits.
9. Sunsuits.

HOW TO ORDER

Place order with the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. Ask for set of nine clothing selection charts. Charts are sold in sets only—40 cents for the set. Cash, money order, or certified check must accompany the order.